



PATENT
Customer No.: 22,852
Attorney Docket No.: 08203.0003-02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|-----------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| In re Application of: |) | |
| |) | |
| John BUTLER et al. |) | Group Art Unit: 3732 |
| |) | |
| Application No.: 10/635,909 |) | Examiner: Cary E. O'Connor |
| |) | |
| Filed: August 7, 2003 |) | |
| |) | |
| For: SURGICAL DEVICE (As |) | Confirmation No.: 7820 |
| Amended) |) | |

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

In reply to the Office Action mailed February 7, 2006, the period for response having been extended to August 7, 2006 by the three-month Petition for Extension of Time and fee payment filed herewith, please amend the application as provided below.

Amendments to the Specification being on page 2 of this reply.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 3 of this reply.

Amendments to the Drawings are included in the attached replacement drawing sheets. The amendments are discussed in this reply and are also illustrated in the attached replacement drawing sheets.

Remarks/Arguments follow the amendments sections of this reply.

Attachments to this reply include four replacement drawing sheets (FIGS. 1-4).